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A TRIBUTE TO JEAN PICTET

On 30 June 1979, Mr. Jean Pictet will reach retirement age after forty-two years of service with the ICRC.

He joined the ICRC in 1937 and has had a very full career. He is a thinker, a jurist, a writer, a teacher and at the same time a man of action, who took part in all major Red Cross undertakings; he is the inspirer and the mentor of the Red Cross.

Vice-president of the ICRC and member of the ICRC Executive Board, director of the Henry Dunant Institute, chairman of the ICRC Legal Commission, president of the editorial committee of our International Review; author of several well-known books and of many articles, editor and co-author of such important works as the Commentary to the Geneva Conventions, to the Protocols, and of the huge General Report on ICRC activities during the Second World War; an active and often determinant participant in diplomatic conferences, expert groups, study groups and "round tables"—sometimes responsible for their preparatory works sometimes presiding with undisputed authority and confidence; an interesting lecturer, a professor at the Academy of International Law in the Hague, at Geneva University, at Strasbourg—under the auspices of the Council of Europe and of the University; doctor honoris causa of Leyden and Zurich Universities: Jean Pictet earned the esteem, respect and gratitude of all who met him in person or read his writings and were forcibly attracted by his personality.

In retirement, Jean Pictet will still be very busy, for he will remain a member of the International Committee of the Red Cross and will be associated with various activities of the ICRC. International Review, which owes him so much, extends to him its respectful best wishes.

A TRIBUTE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC

Red Cross action would be impossible without profound reflexion which extends and consolidates it and provides it with legal grounds. Since Solferino this certitude has been constantly upheld by such notable figures as Gustave Moynier, Max Huber and now Jean Pictet.

Those who have the privilege of dealing with Jean Pictet realize that he is not only a man of keen intelligence and wide culture, a scholar who is a very fount of learning, but that he is also a man with a heart.

How many times, in moments of crisis, have we heard him flare up at the cruelty which men all over the world inflict on others ! This capacity for indignation has not been diminished. Never has he given up the struggle against suffering, for he believes that where there is a will there is always a way.

This contagious faith is expressed in lofty thoughts and penetrating language, sometimes with a caustic touch but tempered with humour at exactly the right place to attenuate the utterance.

So we should not be surprised to see that people for whom the Red Cross is not just one humanitarian organization among others, but a dynamic movement whose forces must be guided and directed and in which none may slumber or lack imagination, turn to him for guidance and counsel.

The Red Cross in general, and the ICRC in particular, owes an immense debt of gratitude to Jean Pictet, whose whole life and thought have served their ideals.

Alexandre HAY
*President of the
International Committee
of the Red Cross*

A TRIBUTE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE

Jean Pictet, in my opinion, personifies the Red Cross. His elevated thinking, sureness of judgement and determination have greatly influenced our whole institution and have contributed decisively to making the Red Cross what it is today.

Our working relationship began just after the Second World War and in 1960 our contacts became almost a daily occurrence. I was thus privileged to see Jean Pictet in action and the importance of his work.

Jean Pictet is a great humanist. He was the architect of the fundamental Red Cross Principles which guide and motivate our movement and give it its true character: spirit of service and self-sacrifice. He made a major contribution to international humanitarian law through his participation in the work preparatory to the 1949 Geneva Conventions and to the 1977 Protocols, his determinant and active intervention in the Diplomatic Conferences convened to elaborate these treaties, and his renowned Commentary. With modesty Jean Pictet rendered inestimable service to the Red Cross; he is its adviser, known and always heeded throughout the world.

It is a pleasurable privilege for me to express to him the deep-felt gratitude of the League of Red Cross Societies and, through the League, that of all National Societies, wishing him many more years of fruitful activity in which we may count on his moral and intellectual authority, his friendship and his dedication.

Henrik BEER

*Secretary-General
League of Red Cross Societies*

ONE MAN—THREE CALLINGS

For almost forty years we worked together in the same institution, for the same ideal, linked by bonds of friendship never impaired by any kind of strain. Such an association entitles me to express my own appreciation of the man—just as he is about to retire—whom I always saw responding splendidly to the challenge in so many different situations. For me, Jean Pictet is a man in whom three callings were combined !

First of all, I think of the mission he pursued at the International Committee of the Red Cross, a mission which is related to the whole history of the Red Cross during and after the Second World War. I see Jean Pictet as a pillar of strength for the ICRC in those difficult days, a man whose physical appearance is certainly not that of a mighty oak but who possesses such moral strength that I have never seen him weaken or despair. His faith in man and in the law protecting man has remained unimpaired. And yet we, and several of our contemporaries, remember for instance that difficult period, immediately after the war, when the ICRC was wondering about the nature of its future tasks and the atomic bomb had sown the seeds of that terrifying uncertainty as to what the future would hold in store for mankind, an uncertainty, too, about the new humanitarian conventions which had to be worked out after the harrowing events of the war.

Jean Pictet took charge of the preparatory work. He nurtured, so to speak, the four Conventions with fervour, until the time when they were ready to be signed in 1949. He then took over the editorship of the Commentary to the Conventions, as Paul des Gouttes, his one-time mentor, and who had himself been a disciple of Gustave Moynier, had done for the 1929 Conventions. This is a fine example of continuity.

But new measures had to be taken against the rise of violence, and Jean Pictet accordingly harnessed himself to the task, overcoming the doubts felt by some of the leaders and workers in the Red Cross movement and by several governments. It was he who stimulated interest in the work for the development of humanitarian law, an undertaking which a succession of international events increasingly showed to be indispensable and which resulted in the conclusion, in 1977, of the two Protocols.

In the various posts occupied by Jean Pictet from 1937, the year he joined the ICRC as a legal secretary, he bore an increasingly heavy burden of responsibility. After having been one of the most active mem-

bers on the ICRC staff during the war, he became a director in 1946. In 1966, he was appointed director-general; the following year, he was co-opted a new member of the ICRC and at the same time was made a member of the Executive Board and Chairman of the Legal Commission. In 1971, he became Vice-President of the ICRC. Throughout his career, he rose from one rung to the next with a surety of judgement which is still today one of his qualities and will continue to govern his actions in the new period of liberty which he is soon to enter.

These brief jottings show Jean Pictet as a man of action who does not hesitate, while being rather a thinker by nature, to get things done in a practical manner, to wrestle with the shifting reality of life which demands that swift decisions be taken, with all that they might entail for thousands of people. But, for him, those decisions can only be considered in the light of that supreme and regularizing factor which he calls the "golden rule"—to take into account at all times only the welfare of those in need.

* * *

Besides the man of action in Jean Pictet, there is also the writer; his output to date includes six works, but his major contribution is his book on the *Red Cross Principles*, in which the first impulse was given to establish the values which inspire to relief activities. The Red Cross feeds upon various kinds of philosophical and spiritual nourishment, and each one brings to the Red Cross as much as it receives from it. In *The Good Samaritan* Max Huber, from whom Jean Pictet derived much of his thought, had already made a significant contribution, from a specifically Christian point of view, to this penetrating quest, in several extremely valuable studies. I too, in my book *Solidarity*, had analysed the idea of the Red Cross in the perspective of moral philosophy. But what was needed then was to gather the various elements scattered here and there and produce a systematic account of the fundamental notions. Jean Pictet set to work and succeeded in the difficult task of formulating each of those principles in a few short sentences, to which he added a commentary the purpose of which was to define the meaning of the terms employed and the logical relationship between them, and to distinguish some sort of order of significance.

At the heart of the Red Cross were to be found therefore a number of principles which Pictet qualified as "fundamental". They give the institution its specific character, for what they express is no less than its "raison d'être", and they must not be discarded at any cost. A secondary set of principles, called "organic" by Pictet, are related not to the central

motives of the Red Cross but to its structure and the work of its various parts. Constantly driven by events pressing it daily to act pragmatically, the Red Cross goes back to its fountain-head and understands better that which gives inspiration to its action in a divided world, where ideologies and passions violently oppose each other. This has been so well understood that, since then, the International Red Cross has adopted a formal Declaration of its fundamental principles which, in essence, are the same as those defined by Jean Pictet. And he would not have been able to define them so accurately and so fully had he not been so closely involved in all the most important decisions which had to be taken in, at times, dramatic circumstances.

* * *

As for the third sphere of activity, his third calling, it is as an innovator than Jean Pictet stands out. Having myself been from the beginning a member of the examining body who questioned his students at their examinations, I know with what knowledge and enthusiastic perception so many of them find their way among the maze of the Conventions of The Hague and of Geneva and of the international instruments on human rights. It is a testimony to Pictet's lively teaching, based on facts and at the forefront of university learning, that the Faculty of Law at Geneva University, where he has the title of associate professor, is one of the first in the world to have introduced international humanitarian law as a regular subject in its curriculum. Besides, the leadership of the Henry Dunant Institute, which he also took over in 1975, forms part of this mission as much as of his calling as a writer: to improve research and teaching at the intellectual level and endeavour to spread the ideal and practice of solidarity nationally and internationally.

It was in 1964 that he began to teach international humanitarian law after he had given a course on this particular subject at the Academy of International Law at The Hague. More recently, he has lectured also at Strasbourg under the auspices of the Council of Europe and of the University. The continuity of this teaching and the influence it exerts have given it an undeniably high standing, and a consequence has been the creation of new chairs in other seats of learning.

For many years, the ICRC has been hoping that such a branch would be introduced in higher educational institutes, for the Geneva Conventions have become part of the heritage of all mankind. Integrated into public international law, they can and must be studied as they deservedly

should be and in conformity with international undertakings, within the framework of every country's official education policy.

Jean Pictet is certainly today the expert with the widest knowledge of this very special branch of the law of nations, a position which confers on his teaching a particular significance. In the period of openly declared or latent conflicts which we have entered, can there be any more urgent task than the widest possible propagation of knowledge of the legal rules which aim to protect the victims of wars, both national and international?

Confronted as we are at present with the collapse of international morality, the faith of a Jean Pictet in the Geneva Conventions, in their utility and efficacy, and his steadfast confidence in the far-reaching effect of humanitarian service give us comfort and encourage us to march ahead for the defence of human rights.

Jean-Georges LOSSIER

*Former Editor-in-chief of
the International Review of
the Red Cross*

A SCHOLAR

Jean Pictet is an eminent scholar of international law who has made an outstanding contribution to the theory and practice of international relations. His name is linked to the institution and development of international humanitarian law as a special branch of contemporary international law.

Having held various positions over a long period in the International Committee of the Red Cross, he has not only taken part in practical activities for the provision of humanitarian aid to the victims of armed conflicts: he initiated an original concept of international humanitarian law which has been a model for various schools of thought in many States.

In his writings, as in his practical activities, Jean Pictet has always demonstrated professional and human qualities of the highest order, earning the gratitude and respect of all who have been honoured to work with him.

It may well be said that Jean Pictet's contribution to the common effort to develop and reinforce co-operation among States and non-governmental institutions for assistance to victims of armed conflicts and for the consolidation of peace will for ever be highly appreciated. The Diplomatic Conference on international humanitarian law at which he worked so hard has turned to a new page in the development of that

branch of international law, and in co-operation among States on that problem. In this Jean Pictet's merit is outstanding.

I wish Professor Pictet every success in his future work and say to him that we are convinced that the world awaits impatiently for his new writings to enrich the science of international humanitarian law.

Professor I. P. BLISHCHENKO

*Doctor of Legal Science,
Vice-President of the Soviet Lawyers' Association,
Secretary to the Association of Democratic Lawyers*

A THINKER AND A REALIST

It has been my unique privilege to have known Jean Pictet for twenty-three years during which period I have been able to appreciate his very special personality. Jean Pictet's working life has been, in the full sense of the word, dedicated to the mission of the Red Cross movement and, in particular, to the universal work of the International Committee of the Red Cross. His temperament and outlook were ideally suited to the work of that organization, a work which will always be associated with abiding faith of man in man, with the teaching of humanitarian philosophy, the relief of suffering in war and the protection of the defenceless in the clash of arms.

Descended from a family famed for its services to the City of Geneva for over five hundred years, Jean Pictet embarked upon a career in the service of the International Committee which has been marked throughout by unswerving devotion to the high ideals of Henry Dunant, the founder and "father" of the Red Cross movement. Dunant has had, in our time, no more devoted disciple than Jean Pictet, as can be seen in his many writings over the past three decades. In everything he has written he has expressed, in elegant and lucid French, his philosophical thinking and his practical devotion for the Red Cross ideals, in a world that has been torn apart by unprecedented violence and cruelty in warfare.

Perhaps his most substantial contribution to the literature of the International Humanitarian Law was his general editorship of the four volumes of the *Commentary* on the four Geneva Conventions of 1949, published by the International Committee over the years 1952 to 1960. This was a large and authoritative work demanding considerable knowledge. It has a lasting value for jurists and for the mounting numbers of students of Humanitarian Law.

From 1949 until now Jean Pictet wrote and spoke incessantly on the theme of International Humanitarian Law, a subject which will always be associated with his name. At the same time he was the propounder and promoter of the "Seven Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross" which reflect the philosophy of the Red Cross movement and of the man who did so much to make them articulate. "Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity and Universality", who can doubt the value of these principles in the world of today? Jean Pictet has been the constant or standing advocate of these principles, since they were first adopted, at the Twentieth International Red Cross Conference in Vienna in 1965.

After the establishment of the four Geneva Conventions of 1949, now subscribed to by 146 States, the International Committee decided to fill a gap in the humanitarian edifice of protection. This time they sought to secure a modicum of legal protection for the civilian from the effects of modern hostilities. Prominent in this undertaking was Jean Pictet. He presided at the meetings of government experts in Geneva, from 1971 to 1973, which prepared the draft texts. These became the working documents for the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law applicable in Armed Conflicts, convened by the Swiss Federal Government in Geneva and which met for four sessions in the years 1974 to 1977.

This Diplomatic Conference established two Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 which made substantial changes in the law governing the conduct of belligerents in hostilities, so as to cause the minimum loss of life and suffering among the civilian populations. The curtailment of the free range of military operations has been drastic. Throughout this long and arduous work, spread over four years of difficult negotiation and intense legal arguments, Jean Pictet was a patient, calm and assiduous promoter of the humanitarian purpose in war. In the result, these two Protocols were successfully established and came into operation on 7 December, 1978. Jean Pictet and his colleagues of the International Committee have just cause to be proud of this achievement designed to serve the cause of humanity.

Since the conclusion of this Conference he has been responsible for the task of guiding the compilation of the new *Commentary* on these two Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949. It was particularly appropriate that Jean Pictet should have been appointed the second Director of the Dunant Institute in Geneva, consequent upon the tragic death of Pierre Bossier. The Dunant Institute is designed to further the ideals of Dunant and to widen knowledge of the International

Humanitarian Law throughout the world, as is required by that Law. The world stands in need of such an institute as the knowledge of that Humanitarian Law is sadly lacking. Jean Pictet has helped to make that Institute a living reality and has acted as *gubernator* of the means of disseminating that Humanitarian Law.

At this moment of Jean Pictet's retirement it is fitting to pay tribute to all that he has done for the international Red Cross movement. Without doubt, he has accomplished great things for that movement, and done so in a manner marked by cool detachment, style, and, not least, a sense of humour that delighted all those who witnessed it. In the press and flurry of Red Cross work, normally performed in crisis conditions, he remained calm and firm.

Those who came to Geneva on Red Cross business will recall his unfailing courtesy and warmth in greeting visitors of all nations. He speaks as he writes in a French which is a delight to hear and to read. He acts always as a skilful and patient diplomat in furthering the great cause which is closest to his heart. Last, but not least, he is a very good friend. It is agreeable to reflect that his retirement can in no way impede his gift for *amicitia*.

Therefore, upon this, the occasion of his retirement, this writer wishes him a happy and full life in his calm retreat in the mountains he loves and in the City of Geneva of which he and the long line of his forbears have been such outstanding citizens. *Valedico*, Jean Pictet, from all of us who owe you so much and to whom you have been such an inspiration and such a splendid friend.

G.I.A.D. Draper, O.B.E.

*Professor in the University
of Sussex*

AN ARCHITECT OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

The first time I encountered Jean Pictet was at the first conference of government experts, convened at Geneva by the ICRC, on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law. The ICRC had asked Mr. Pictet to chair the conference and conduct the deliberations. It was a most felicitous choice as all those present at the opening plenary meeting soon realized. The discussions were conducted by Mr. Pictet with a simple authority and a distinguished equanimity, equalled only by his scrupulous integrity and refined courtesy. The

function of chairman at a conference is not an easy task. It calls for a combination of qualities: persuasive authority, sound judgment, sense of proportion. The person in the chair must have a liberal, easy and understanding manner. His faculties, as much as his heart, must shine by their generosity, warmth, magnetism and sensibility. By this conduct, he must inspire confidence and impose respect. Jean Pictet amply fulfilled all those conditions.

Towards the end of that opening plenary meeting, after a particularly violent speech by the representative of one of the great Powers, Mr. Pictet, speaking from the chair, made a passionate appeal for reason and peace. He called upon all the experts to maintain the debate at the lofty level which the mission of peace and humanity with which they had been entrusted required of them and to abstain from any discussion of a polemical or political nature. Mr. Pictet's words were uttered with so much sincerity and with such deep feeling that he was loudly acclaimed by everyone present and was listened to with respect at all the subsequent meetings of the conference.

Since that time, I have followed his career with curiosity and interest at first, and very soon after with admiration, an admiration quickly shared by all those who observed him presiding at a meeting. He was considered by all participants as a superb chairman.

Mr. Pictet's many and varied demonstrations in favour of the cause of the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law have put him definitely among the top experts in this field. This noble purpose is, so to speak, a reflection of his spirit. His whole soul is in communion with it and it is not difficult to understand how it is that a man whose reasoning is so vigorous and precise was able to act with so much steadfastness and with such a large measure of success. He has been the distinguished orator for a noble cause which he holds dear, and its fearless and brilliant champion.

I owe Mr. Pictet this expression of my admiration for him and his work. It is but a small tribute to one who has served so loyally and for so long the cause of international humanitarian law in armed conflicts. I shall always think of him with feelings of high consideration, great regard and warm affection.

Professor Hamed SULTAN
*Member of the Institut d'Egypte,
Honorary President of the
Egyptian Society of International
Law.*

THE WRITINGS OF JEAN PICTET

by D. Schindler

Jean Pictet's writings are closely related to the practical aspects of his work in the service of the Red Cross. The doctrine he has unfolded in his books has been deeply influenced by practical experience, while what was done in practice was affected by his writings.

Jean Pictet never allows himself to state an abstract theory. Just as the Red Cross came into being through an act and not through reason, so Jean Pictet's writings are not founded upon any preconceived notions: they attempt to deduce a doctrine from everyday events. He once described the Red Cross in terms which can be applied to himself: "Whereas so many institutions, starting from abstract theories, try to adapt beings and things to themselves—like a second Procrustean bed—the Red Cross was, on the contrary, able to model itself on human nature from the outset, and has hammered out its tenets in the rough school of life".¹

But the notions expounded by Jean Pictet exerted in their turn a profound influence on the decisions which the ICRC and the entire Red Cross were called upon to take. In a period of rapid change, which continually placed the Red Cross in novel and unexpected situations, all those decisions were made in the light of the fundamental principles expounded in Jean Pictet's writings. It is in such fashion that their author has become the authority on moral and legal matters, not only for the ICRC but for the whole Red Cross.

Jean Pictet has published several books and many of his articles have been printed in journals. Mention will be made here only of his principal publications dealing with three closely linked important themes: the Geneva Conventions, the Red Cross principles, and the principles of international humanitarian law.

¹ *Red Cross Principles* (1955), p. 7.

The first of Jean Pictet's important writings about the Geneva Conventions was a paper entitled *The Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions*, read in 1950 to the Academy of International Law at The Hague,¹ a year after the four Conventions of 1949 had been adopted. Today it is just as topical as it was in 1950 and may be read with equal interest. It reveals all of Jean Pictet's qualities: restriction to essentials, knowledge of a vast range of subjects, wide practical experience, clarity and simplicity of style, elegance of language. In that lecture, he discussed all the significant points of the Conventions; but, in addition, he identified their significance in the history of the evolution of the law of nations and of the Red Cross.

It is interesting to note that, already at that time, Jean Pictet, following a still unfamiliar line of thought, established a connection between the Geneva Conventions and human rights. One may read what he said of the Geneva Conventions: "They should therefore be linked to the vast movement of international law which, since 1864 when the first Geneva Convention was signed, has attempted to safeguard the fundamental rights of the human person."² Later, speaking of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, he added: "But this Declaration, as we know, has still to be implemented. It can therefore be said that, here too, in this sphere of paramount importance, it is the law of Geneva which has introduced innovations. Since all the countries of the world have put their signature to the Fourth Geneva Convention, the first charter laying down the obligations in respect of the rights of the human person, let us hope that they will not hesitate at some future date to write into a convention that will be valid at all times and for all persons that which they have accepted with regard to their enemies".³

The most voluminous work ever produced on the Geneva Conventions took shape in the *Commentary to the Geneva Conventions of 1949*, published in four volumes by the ICRC, under the supervision of Jean Pictet. He himself wrote the major part of the two volumes dealing with the First and Second Conventions, but all four volumes were edited by him and written in the same style. The work is not an official publication, for the International Committee was not qualified to lay down an authentic interpretation of the Conventions' provisions. But the commentaries are marked by such a high degree of objectivity and are filled with such

¹ *Recueil des cours de l'Académie de Droit international de La Haye*, tome 76 (1950, I), pp. 1-119.

² P. 5.

³ P. 111.

a wealth of information that the reader hardly ever realizes that the opinions expressed do not commit anyone except the different authors.

The book entitled *Red Cross Principles*, published in 1955¹, is a masterpiece of clarity and accuracy. In the preface, Max Huber wrote: "The leaders of the Red Cross movement, and those who wish to write on Red Cross matters, must possess an intelligence which comes near to wisdom; for a very delicate touch is required to perceive the subtleties and limitations in this sphere. But all Red Cross personnel, whatever their work or the posts they occupy, must have hearts and be imbued with the Red Cross spirit. It is the presence of all these qualities of the mind and heart which gives the present work its value and charm". This is the book which established Jean Pictet as the spiritual heir to Max Huber in the sphere of the Red Cross. The numerous papers and articles which Max Huber published contain many valuable and permanent contributions to Red Cross doctrine, but Jean Pictet was the first to seek to build up a coherent structure of the principles of the Red Cross as the basis of a system.

However, this book is not a law treatise; its purpose is to identify and clarify the principles which impart to the Red Cross its own specific character.

Its author furnishes for all those principles an explanation nourished by the rich experience he had gathered over the years. The book's title and the enumeration of the principles might lead one to think that its contents deal with a highly abstract subject, but in fact the text is extraordinarily alive and stimulating. It was thanks to the existence of Pictet's "Red Cross Principles" that the Twentieth International Red Cross Conference, at Vienna in 1965, adopted the Proclamation of the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross. A commentary on the 1965 Proclamation by Jean Pictet entitled *The Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross* was published in the spring of 1979 (Henry Dunant Institute, Geneva).²

Next, a book with the title *Principles of International Humanitarian Law* appeared first in 1966 in several instalments of the *International Review of the Red Cross*, before being issued as an off-print by the ICRC. It is conceived on the same plan as that adopted for Pictet's earlier book on the Red Cross principles. The author elucidates the principles underlying international humanitarian law and builds up a system on them. The book contains this particularity—its most striking feature—that the notion of international humanitarian law is not restricted to the Geneva

¹ ICRC and Librairie E. Droz, Genève.

² *International Review* begins the publication of this work in its present issue.

Conventions, its overall concept includes also human rights and The Hague Conventions on the law of war. It is the first work in which the correlation between the law of war and human rights is examined closely.

Pictet establishes a distinction between the principles common to the law of war and to human rights and those specific to each of those two categories. He calls "common principles" those of inviolability, non-discrimination and security. The principles of the *ratione personae* restriction, the *ratione loci* restriction and the *ratione conditionis* restriction are specific to the law of The Hague, while the principles of neutrality, normality and protection are specific to the law of Geneva. Under the principles proper to Human Rights he puts the principle of liberty and the principle of social well-being.

The establishment of such a correlation between the law of war and human rights has not been correctly understood by everyone. Some writers considered that Pictet was trying to include human rights in the law of armed conflicts. Others opposed the idea that the law of war and human rights, each of which had developed along wholly different paths, could be correlated. But these critics had viewed Pictet's research from only the dogmatic angle. For him it was irrelevant to say whether the law of war was more important than human rights, or the other way round, nor did he intend to set up a new system of the law of nations; his sole aim was to bring to light the undeniable connection that existed between those branches of law as regards substance. Furthermore, he was not expounding principles of law alone, but also principles of ethics.

Finally, there is the book entitled "Humanitarian Law and the Protection of War Victims",¹ the fruit of a lecture delivered at the Strasbourg International Institute of Human Rights. It is a particularly felicitous reconstitution of some considerations which had been touched upon in Jean Pictet's earlier writings and is a continuation of those considerations.

Among all the things achieved by Jean Pictet for the Red Cross and international humanitarian law, only his writings will remain as the fruit of his personal efforts, while most of his other deeds will be buried in the anonymity of institutions and conferences. But his writings will show them to be the work of a man imbued with the work of the Red Cross, and who has left his personal imprint on the Red Cross institution.

Dietrich SCHINDLER

*Professor at the Faculty of Law
University of Zurich*

¹ A. W. Sijthoff, Leyden, and Henry Dunant Institute, Geneva, 1973.

The Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross

COMMENTARY

by Jean Pictet

INTRODUCTION

A reminder

The Twentieth International Red Cross Conference, meeting in Vienna in 1965, proclaimed the “fundamental principles upon which Red Cross action is based”. Since that time, at every Conference, the representatives of the Red Cross world rise to their feet to hear the solemn reading of those principles.

The principles, however, have not yet been the subject of any commentary. The fact is that the book “*Les principes de la Croix-Rouge*”¹, the source of the Vienna text, antedated the official version which, while being close to the model, was not identical with it. The book referred to was indeed a complete work, of a somewhat scientific character, and not a terse commentary designed to serve the general public.

A desire has therefore been expressed particularly in relation to the study on the Re-appraisal of the Role of the Red Cross, for a simple and modern commentary which would make these principles understandable to everyone, and especially to the young people, who represent the future. For these reasons, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross Societies and the Swiss Red Cross have asked the Henry Dunant Institute to prepare such a commentary. This book ² is intended to meet that request. For obvious reasons,

¹ Jean Pictet: *Red Cross Principles*, Geneva, 1956. (Translated from the French, *Les principes de la Croix Rouge*, Geneva, 1955).

² The author would like to thank all those who have been of assistance to him with their advice, and in particular Mr. Jean Pascalis, Deputy Secretary General of the Swiss Red Cross, who rendered invaluable service to him.

it contains elements from *Red Cross Principles*, in abbreviated form, supplemented by more recent material.

The author of the *Final Report on the Re-appraisal of the Role of the Red Cross*¹ raised questions as to precisely what constituted Red Cross principles, commenting that there was some confusion concerning them. In reality, there is no possible doubt, at least with regard to the fundamental principles, for these are set forth in the Proclamation of 1965, whose fundamental character is obvious. The Red Cross world was determined at that time to provide itself with a true charter, as the fruit of a century of experience and the lasting basis for its future activity.

There is also another text on the principles of the Red Cross, adopted by the Board of Governors of the League at Oxford in 1946 and approved by the Eighteenth International Red Cross Conference in 1952. However, the joint commission responsible for drafting the fundamental principles, which subsequently became the Proclamation of 1965, took the Oxford text into consideration and took from it material of a general character.

The Oxford text, a verbose and loosely drafted document produced at the end of the Second World War, consists for the most part of organic or institutional principles and of simple rules for action—which continue to be valid within these limits but which have no place in a proclamation. The same is true for various precepts set forth in resolutions by the International Red Cross Conferences.

It will certainly be useful in due course to bring together all those organic principles, now so dispersed, into a single declaration to which the International Conference could give its approval.

Furthermore, we must avoid confusion of the principles of the Red Cross with the principles of international humanitarian law, mainly embodied in the Geneva Conventions for the protection of the victims of war. The former serve at all times to inspire the action of the Red Cross as a private institution, whereas the latter, which have an official character, regulate in wartime the conduct of States vis-à-vis their enemies.

There is nevertheless a link between these two fields, for humanitarian law had its origin in the ideal of the Red Cross, which continues to stimulate its development. Thus there are certain principles, such as

¹ Donald Tansley: *Final Report: An Agenda for Red Cross*, Geneva, 1975. This document and its annexes contain an important sum of facts and experience to which I shall refer a number of times as the “Tansley Report”.

those of humanity and of non-discrimination, which in a sense are common to both.

In addition, when they accord their protection to the National Societies of the Red Cross, the Conventions refer on occasion to *activities which are in conformity with the principles laid down by the International Red Cross Conferences*.¹ These principles are indeed none other than those embodied in the Vienna Proclamation ².

The present work will therefore be concerned with providing a commentary on that Proclamation. In presenting the Proclamation to the International Red Cross Conference in 1965, its authors by no means believed that they had achieved perfection at the first attempt. The fact is that the text suffers from some defects and omissions which will become apparent in the light of the critical examination to which we shall subject it in this study. This should help us sketch the outlines of a future revision when the time comes, for nothing in this world is unchangeable. These imperfections do not, however, have such importance or urgency as to require an early revision. As it stands today, the Proclamation provides the Red Cross, now and for a long time to come, with a firm and healthy doctrinal foundation.

A universal doctrine

The work of the Red Cross is born of a high ideal, from which it continually draws fresh life, but as it primarily consists of practical actions, frequently improvised, there is a serious risk that in the haste of charitable action and in spite of the purity of one's intentions, one may deviate from the guiding principles, and unity of thought may be lacking.

There is also the fact that the Red Cross takes root in all parts of the world, differing greatly one from another. The National Societies are extremely varied, and each has its own distinctive character. Some are strong while others are still weak; they may have many members or only a few; some have had long experience while others have just come into

¹ First Geneva Convention, 1949, Article 44 and Protocol I, 1977, Article 81.

² In the interest of brevity, this will hereafter be referred to as "the Proclamation". It was first read at the Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross at Prague in 1961.

existence. They do not all have identical activities and some do not have clearly defined programmes.

The doctrine of the Red Cross therefore—along with, but more important than, the Statutes of the International Red Cross—is the real link between these Societies, the cement which holds the stones together to make of them a solid and well built edifice. It is this doctrine which creates the unity and the universality of the structure, which, indeed, makes the Red Cross a reality. Without principles, the Red Cross would simply not exist.

It is therefore indispensable for it to have a sound and precise doctrine. Strange as it may seem, however, it was only after the upheavals of the First World War that the International Committee of the Red Cross,¹ the founding body of the movement and designated as the guardian of its principles, felt the need to formulate this doctrine. In earlier days, tradition had more force than the written law. Certain ideas of a moral order which it was not permitted to discuss or necessary to explain imposed themselves upon human conscience. Thus it was that the Red Cross, in all its many aspects, forged its tenets in the hard school of life.

Even as late as in 1921 the first reference to a codified doctrine was unobtrusive. This concerned what we now refer to as the summary of fundamental principles, as they appear in the Statutes of the International Red Cross. They had been enumerated by the ICRC as follows, *impartiality, action independent of any racial, political, religious or economic considerations, the universality of the Red Cross and the equality of the National Red Cross Societies*. This text still lacked the most important principle of all, the principle of humanity. Since then a great servant of the Red Cross, Max Huber, President of the ICRC, determined to provide the institution with a doctrine. He did so, with an incomparable nobility of vision and sureness of judgement. The various elements however were dispersed among his writings, having been worked out for the most part to meet the exigencies of the Second World War.

The first systematic presentation of the principles of the Red Cross, as we have noted, dates from 1955 and served as the basis for the official Proclamation which today has the force of law.

The doctrine of the Red Cross is permanent. It is the expression of long-term wisdom, indifferent to the ebb and flow of popular opinions

¹ Hereafter referred to as the ICRC.

and ideologies of the moment. It outlived those who created it and this lasting character is perhaps a sign of its superiority over everything that happens here on earth.

In order to play the decisive role required of it, this doctrine must be universal. For people of all races, cultures and opinions to be able to accept it, it must be expressed in words which are understood by everyone.

The Red Cross has proclaimed its unity and its universality. These ideas must be based upon something to which they are similar and to which they can be compared. While people differ, human nature everywhere is the same—and there is nothing more widespread than human suffering, to which all men are equally vulnerable and sensitive.

However, even though we recognize today the unity of human feelings, we no longer believe that there is only one valid civilization, worthy of the name. On the contrary, we now acknowledge the pluralism of cultures and the need to become acquainted with them and study them deeply. In doing so we realize that humanitarian principles belong to all peoples and take root under all favourable conditions. When we bring together and compare different moral systems and dispose of the non-essentials, that is to say their special peculiarities, we find in the crucible a pure metal, the universal heritage of mankind.

As we proceed with this study we can see that there is no unmitigable collision between the “different worlds” which we have placed in contrast. All doctrines can lead to the great law of the Red Cross, but each one by its own pathway, in accordance with the convictions and characters of the various peoples. The Red Cross serves to unite, and not to divide. It is thus for the Red Cross to proclaim norms which have universal validity, because they are fully in accord with human nature.

Definition and classification

Before beginning to study the principles of the Red Cross, one must first investigate what a principle is. This is a concept which is not easy to define, but about which everyone nevertheless has relatively clear feelings. In philosophical terms, a principle is an abstraction of a moral nature, derived from the ideal tendencies of society, which imposes itself upon human conscience and becomes an absolute imperative, above and beyond discussion. In terms of what we are now concerned with, we

shall say that a principle is simply a rule, based upon judgement and experience, which is adopted by a community to guide its conduct.

To achieve their purpose, these principles must be presented clearly, so that they are understood by everyone. In this respect, the Proclamation is quite restrained and even lapidary. This does not mean that it does not need a commentary. The more general and condensed a text is, the richer it is in its potentialities and the more open to possibilities for exploration. To deal with cases not specifically provided for, it is necessary to extrapolate, that is, to project the lines beyond the original sketch. I shall try to give this commentary the clarity and simplicity of its model.¹

The principles of the Red Cross do not all have the same importance. They have a hierarchical order, indicated at the outset by the sequence in which they are presented in the Proclamation. They also have an internal logic, so that each one to a degree flows from another. I shall therefore try to place them in appropriate categories. Any classification has a somewhat arbitrary character however and the pattern outlined below will necessarily be theoretical in some aspects and, in practical life, we shall find that some of the categories overlap.

We shall remain faithful to the terminology of the Proclamation by characterizing as *fundamental principles* the seven propositions adopted in 1965. Some of these, however, actually include two or three concepts, bringing to about fifteen the real number of principles. We shall not be dealing here with the simple *rules of action* which are applied in practice and contribute to the efficiency of the organization, such rules as are to be found, for example, in what we referred to above as the Oxford text.

Among the fundamental principles we find first of all the *substantive principles*. These stand above all contingencies and particular cases; they inspire the organization and determine its acts. They belong to the domain of objectives and not to that of ways and means. Among these, the first one, humanity, has a special place because it is the expression of the profound motivation of the Red Cross, from which all the other principles are derived. Accordingly, we speak of this as the *essential principle*.

¹ To this end, I shall on occasion gather under a separate heading some elementary philosophical considerations for those who wish to study these matters more profoundly. Readers with little time at their disposal may thus leave these matters to one side.

The other substantive principles are non-discrimination and proportionality (merged in the proclamation under the heading "Impartiality"). The first of these is closely linked to the principle of humanity; the second results from the concepts of humanity and non-discrimination.

Next in order are the *derived principles* of neutrality and independence, which make it possible to put the essential principle into action and enable us, without deforming them, to translate the substantive principles into factual reality. They also assure the Red Cross of the confidence of all parties, which is indispensable to the discharge of its mission. Here, we are within the domain of means and not of ends. Neutrality and independence are related directly to non-discrimination.

The third category, finally, is that of *organic principles* which have an institutional character. Included among these are unselfishness and voluntary action (combined in the Proclamation under "Voluntary service"), unity and universality. These are standards for application, relating to the structure and operation of the institution, coming into play primarily in connection with specific tasks. They are less far-reaching than the previous principles. It should be noted however that the principle of universality has a mixed character, relating both to an ideal and to practicality, derived in part from the precepts of humanity and of non-discrimination. With regard to unselfishness and voluntary action, we find that these are closely related to the principle of humanity. Lastly, unity is linked to non-discrimination.

Translating principles into action

The doctrine of the Red Cross, as we have said, is universal. Its application should also be universal. If it were to be scrupulously observed everywhere, all Red Cross activity, inspired by it, would proceed along parallel lines in the different countries, which is especially necessary in the event of conflicts.

The doctrine constitutes a coherent system, an indivisible whole, whose different parts are as solid as the stones in a building. It is impossible, therefore, depending upon latitude or longitude, to accept certain elements while rejecting others.

The reading of the Proclamation sometimes gives rise to the following question: is there any one Red Cross Society which puts this admirable

doctrine into effect, at all times and in its totality? It is not easy to answer this question. We have to recognize, at least, that a substantial number of Societies fall far short of complying with all the fundamental principles of the Red Cross, either in letter or in spirit.¹ It suffices to mention as stumbling blocks only such points as non-discrimination in relief and in organic structure, autonomy vis-à-vis the public authorities, political and religious neutrality and the extension of activity to the whole territory of countries.

A second question then arises, one which is no less serious: Is it not hypocritical to proclaim a Charter described as sacrosanct and at the same time to tolerate its transgression? The truth is that nothing in life is absolute. The doctrine of the Red Cross, formulated at a particular moment in history, applies to a living world in never-ending movement, to a society composed of men who have not attained perfection. Sometimes it represents an ideal model to which we may aspire, rather than an unbending and rigorous law.

In legal terms, it is true indeed that the ICRC, in serious cases, could withdraw international recognition from a National Society which displayed conduct in flagrant contradiction of the "conditions of recognition", one of which, specifically, is to "honour the fundamental principles of the Red Cross". If the ICRC did not have this right, the whole procedure for admission to the International Red Cross would be nothing but a farce, for it would be sufficient for a Society to comply for only one day, the day of its recognition! The International Red Cross Conference has recently confirmed this power.² We may note that the ICRC has never yet had to take such an extreme measure. In any event, so long as the spirit of the Red Cross survives, that spirit which makes of the movement a living and coherent reality, sanctions will be superfluous; should such a spirit cease to exist, it is a safe bet that sanctions would be powerless to enforce compliance.

Thus, while the ICRC vigilantly oversees the maintenance of the principles of the Red Cross—which is one of its cardinal objectives—

¹ The *Tansley Report* states that out of 23 National Societies studied, four did not meet the conditions for recognition and that there were grave doubts about two or three of the others.

² Twenty-second Conference, Teheran, 1973, Resolution VI. In addition, the *League Statutes* provide, in certain cases, for suspension of a member Society.

we may be sure that inspired by the adage: *fortiter in re, suaviter in modo*,¹ it will be careful to avoid dogmatism. In publishing, before the Second World War, the conditions for recognition of new Red Cross Societies which it had itself formulated, the ICRC added to them the comment, *bearing in mind in particular the complexity of the international juridical status of various State groupings, the ICRC is obliged to interpret these principles with a certain degree of flexibility, taking into account the particular circumstances in each individual case*.² Such a reservation is a wise one and is valid as well for the principles of the Red Cross.

The National Societies are the auxiliaries of the public authorities, whose full support they need and with whom they must have relations of full confidence. These Societies cannot exist as foreign bodies within their nations, as Max Huber once remarked. We may therefore assume as a general rule that whenever a Society remains for a long period in contradiction with one of the principles it is due to ineluctable exigencies imposed upon it by the law or by the power of the State.

On the other hand, what we do expect of the Society is that it will remain vigilant and on every occasion will seek to obtain a better understanding of the profound significance of the Red Cross; that it will do all within its power to return to a normal situation as quickly as possible.

The important thing is to remain dedicated, come what may, to the ideal and spirit of the Red Cross. In this domain, we may very well display our intransigence. This ideal and this spirit have been expressed in the substantive principles which, as we have seen, rank higher than the others. These the Red Cross cannot surrender at any cost. It will remain faithful to them or it will not survive.

Some additional observations

We observe today a weakening throughout the world of the spirit of service. The Red Cross also suffers from this general tendency. It is therefore confronted by the need to restore and strengthen this spirit among its members.

¹ Strong in action, gentle in method.

² *Manuel de la Croix-Rouge internationale*, seventh edition, page 250.

In a rapidly changing society, too many people seem to be losing sight of the underlying realities which must guide the institution. Donald Tansley found in the Red Cross a great deal of confusion as to its fundamental role and the absence of a sense of common purpose. He saw the cause for this in the extremely diversified development of its activities in the course of its first century, a tendency which is certainly on the increase today.

There was no such problem in the early days of the Red Cross, when it was concerned only with the military wounded and sick. Today however, apart from their traditional tasks, certain National Societies exercise such varied activities as the fight against pollution, mountain rescue services, eradication of illiteracy, birth control, etc. In this connection, Tansley does not only warn against the handicaps of ignorance, but against nothing less than the danger of disintegration. I hope the present work will remedy this to some extent and contribute to better understanding of an overriding ideal.

As the world confronts new needs, it is natural to attempt to meet them. Not all suffering however can be alleviated by the Red Cross. The institution does not have a comprehensive programme, complete and fully defined. To draft such a programme would be a difficult task, demanding a great deal of time and care.

The Red Cross does of course have a certain image of what the world could be, a world with respect for life, individual liberty, universal happiness, rejection of violence and hatred, tolerance and non-discrimination. It could be asserted therefore that its philosophy is optimistic, since it does not despair of the individual and demonstrates by its actions its faith in existence. After all, *if man no longer finds it possible to love his fellow beings, he is lost.*¹

This does not mean that the Red Cross adheres to any particular ideology. It is not part of its role to approve any one system and condemn the others. It takes the world as it is, with its lights and shadows, strengths and weaknesses, aspirations, passions and fictions.

¹ Maxence van der Meersch.

What it seeks and proposes, in the field of assistance, are practical solutions of human proportions.

Thus, as Max Huber recalled, the Red Cross was not based upon an abstract idea but was created on a battlefield, amidst the distress which was an immediate and present fact, by men and women who set to work. It is because of that that it lives and will go on living.

The morality of the Red Cross is therefore valid to the extent that it expresses itself in concrete realities. As Bergson said—and this applies especially to the Red Cross—*We must always act as men of thought and think as men of action.*

I

HUMANITY

The Red Cross, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavours—in its international and national capacity—to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

Preamble

The Proclamation begins with a brief reference which obviously does not constitute part of the principle of humanity itself. It is a kind of historic preamble, recalling that the Red Cross was *born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield*.

Doubtless, this phrase has no logical place in a declaration which should be devoted only to fundamental principles. It has the merit of serving as a reminder however to those—and they are numerous—who have a tendency nowadays to forget that the Red Cross was born of the sufferings of war. At the time of its creation and for the first years of its existence, the Red Cross had as its only mission the assisting of wounded soldiers and preparing itself to do so.

However, in order to measure up to their task in the event of conflict, the National Societies very soon realized the need to work in peacetime. First of all, they had to train personnel and prepare necessary material, in other words be ready for instantaneous mobilization. This personnel,

on the other hand, could not be allowed to remain idle between conflicts and become demoralized by uselessly awaiting action. One could not train a huge phalanx and hold it in readiness for a very uncertain eventuality, especially when there were so many wounds to heal throughout the world.

The Societies therefore began to care for sick civilians, to run hospitals and nurseries, set up schools for nurses, to work for improved hygiene and to intervene in the event of natural disasters. Finally, they included the entire population in their sphere of activity, and this peacetime work became an end in itself. This tendency was accelerated after the First World War, at a time when it was felt that the spectre of war had been banished forever, and gave rise to the League of Red Cross Societies. The Red Cross movement would certainly never have achieved its universal extension and worldwide popularity if it had remained within its original bounds.

In the early days of the Red Cross, assistance to the war wounded mainly took the form of close co-operation with the military medical services, of which the National Societies were the natural auxiliaries. In a number of countries however it worked the other way and the foundation of the National Society stimulated major reforms in the military medical services. Today, in the most prosperous countries, the military services have assumed such proportions and attained such a high level of efficiency that they hardly have any more need for assistance from National Societies. We should not draw hasty conclusions from this, however, for this is not at all the case in a majority of countries and if, unhappily, a great battle should take place in a developing continent, there is every reason to believe that it would be a new Solferino.

Nowadays, in terms of volume, peacetime work constitutes the greater part of the day to day tasks of the National Societies. The historic reference which stands first in the Proclamation is a very opportune reminder however that the war activities for which the Red Cross was created conserves its precedence in the scale of values. This is not only true for the ICRC, which is the pre-eminent neutral agent in wartime. It is equally true for the whole movement. Other benevolent institutions may care for sick civilians, cripples and orphans, whereas for the Red Cross, war is the decisive test. It is in wartime, when everything seems lost, when man has chosen the path of suffering and annihilation, that the Red Cross stands as the defender of the supreme interests of humanity.

The preamble also provides a reminder of the necessity, recognized from the very beginning, of providing assistance "without discrimination". This concept, which we shall discuss in greater detail in the next chapter, deserves to have a prominent place, for it is inseparable from the Red Cross and from the very principle of humanity itself. If, in a spirit of equity, the Red Cross extends its action to everyone, it will, in a spirit of humanity, exclude no one, even those one might be tempted to hate. Thus, as was written long ago by the Chinese philosopher Meh-ti, *Only a love which makes no distinction will save the world*. Any philanthropy which based its action upon the merits of the people it helped would be doomed in advance, starting from a false premise and ending in failure.

Terminology

Confusion sometimes arises between the words human and humanitarian, humanism and humanitarianism, abstract expressions which all derive from the same origin—the word man.

Human, in its original sense, refers to all that concerns man. However, in the sense which is now of interest to us, the word human is used to describe a man who is good to his fellow beings. We shall come back to this point.

Humanity is therefore the sentiment or attitude of someone who shows himself to be human. Following Littré's dictionary, we would define humanity as a sentiment of active goodwill towards mankind. The word humanity in this sense is so perfectly suited to the Red Cross that it was chosen to designate its essential principle. At the same time, the word also serves to specify human nature and even the human species as a whole. In addition, it is rather more a feeling than a principle, so that perfect logic would suggest a preference for the word humanitarianism. These are minor drawbacks however and we should maintain the word humanity, for it is simple, direct and closer to man.

Humanitarian characterizes any action beneficent to man. *Humanism* is a philosophical doctrine whose ultimate object is the human being. This concept is a broader one than humanitarianism, with which we are mainly concerned.

Humanitarianism is a doctrine which aims at the happiness of the human species, or, if one prefers, it is the attitude of humanity towards mankind, on a basis of universality.

Modern humanitarianism is an advanced and rational form of charity and justice. It is not only directed to fighting against the suffering of a given moment and of helping particular individuals, for it also has more positive aims, designed to attain the greatest possible measure of happiness for the greatest number of people. In addition, humanitarianism does not only act to cure but also to prevent suffering, to fight against evils, even over a long term of time. The Red Cross is a living example of this approach.

Closely associated with humanity is charity. *Charity* is an effort demanded of us, either inwardly or from the outside, which becomes a second nature, to relieve and put an end to the sufferings of others. Here again there is a risk of confusion of terms, for the word has also come to refer simply to the giving of alms. Charity is above all an expression of Christian morality and is synonymous with love for one's neighbour. Since there is generally only one word for "love" in modern languages, there has sometimes been a confusion between love in the sense of desire and love in the sense of devotion. It is naturally in the latter sense that we use it here, for we are speaking of altruistic and disinterested love, which can be required of us, which calls for a certain degree of self-control, a love which is extended even to our enemies.

Pity is one of the driving forces of charity. It is a spontaneous movement, an instantaneous affective reaction to the suffering of others. Littré defines pity as "that sentiment aroused at the sight of suffering that prompts one to relieve it". It is also called compassion, *that stirring of the soul which makes one responsive to the distress of others*, according to Larousse. Pity is like a forerunner of charity.

Commentary

In the doctrine of the Red Cross, the principle of humanity, from which all the other principles flow, obviously has to stand in first place. As the basis of the institution, it provides at the same time its ideal, its motivation and its objective. It is indeed the prime mover for the whole

movement, the spark which ignites the powder, the line of force for all its action. If the Red Cross were to have only one principle, it would be this one.

Such a text also enables the institution to define its tasks, to outline the field for its intervention and mark its limits, which is a major necessity. Although it is the purpose of the Red Cross to make the world a better place, it can do so only in certain respects. It cannot undertake every activity regarded as benevolent but must concentrate on specific responsibilities. Only in so doing will it guard itself from a dangerous dispersal of effort.

The principle of humanity was formulated for the first time in 1955, as follows, *The Red Cross fights against suffering and death. It demands that man shall be treated humanely under all circumstances.*¹

In the Proclamation, this principle includes three elements,² very closely related to one another, apart from the reference to peace, a programme element which we shall deal with separately, as follows:

(a) To prevent and alleviate suffering

For the purpose of this commentary, we shall reverse the order of the terms in the declaration since, in its history, the Red Cross has been concerned first of all with relieving human suffering, before giving thought to preventing it. Furthermore, its restorative action, which consists in relieving distress, has continued to constitute by far the greater part of its endeavours.

Everyone knows suffering, that ancient and intimate enemy of man; from his birth it follows him like a shadow and one shudders to think of the indescribable accumulation of pain which has weighed down the human race since the beginning of the world. The most odious form of suffering is that which man inflicts deliberately. As Montaigne said, *I bitterly hate cruelty as the worst of all vices.*

By suffering, we refer not only to all pain, but also to every injury, even though it is not felt. We must make an exception however for cases

¹ Jean Pictet: *Red Cross Principles*.

² This triple mandate was reaffirmed, in the same language, by the Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference at Bucharest in 1977 (Resolution I, entitled "The Red Cross Mission.").

in which the suffering may be due to therapeutic necessity, for it is then admissible to cause pain to avoid a greater pain. We are therefore mainly concerned with unnecessary suffering.

In the past, there was a tendency to accept misery—especially that of other people—with resignation. There was an acceptance of the excessively facile explanation of inevitable destiny. Nowadays, it is true, the total sum of suffering which afflicts the world has certainly not diminished and in some regions it is on the increase. The sense of human solidarity has developed however and people are more aware of the duty of combating distress wherever it manifests itself, and no matter how disproportionate to it are the means available.

Under this heading, the principle of humanity sets for the Red Cross its task in time of war—its primary and essential function—and also its work in time of peace. It governs its work of material, medical and social assistance, both in national and international terms. It does not aim only at relieving physical pain, but also the moral suffering which the Red Cross attempts to alleviate, for example when it relieves a family of uncertainty and anguish as to the fate of a loved one. The principle is valid furthermore no matter what the cause of the suffering may be—whether it is due for example to a catastrophe resulting from natural causes, shortages of life's necessities or to human negligence or malignity.

The Proclamation correctly emphasizes that the restorative action of the Red Cross must be accompanied by preventive action. The best means of fighting against suffering, after all, is to prevent it from arising, to seek out and eliminate its causes, to nip the evil in the bud. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, as the common expression has it.

In the field of health, prophylaxis, vaccinations, hygiene, early detection of diseases, teaching, etc. are increasingly extensive activities among the National Societies.

In the field of administration, prevention takes the form of advance preparation, for the Red Cross must be ready at any time to face the tasks it may encounter. This necessity was apparent from the very beginning of the Red Cross and it was a mark of the genius of Henry Dunant that he understood that in order to be effective relief for the victims of war had to be prepared incessantly in times of peace. This takes the form of training personnel, preparing material, perfecting methods and conducting scientific research. It is therefore one of the

conditions for recognition of new Red Cross Societies that they *become prepared in time of peace for wartime activities*.

In the legal field, prevention calls for the work of developing international humanitarian law. As we know, the ICRC has been concerned since the beginning with promoting and perfecting the rules protecting the victims of conflicts and it was the architect of the Geneva Conventions. Lastly, it is prevention which determines the role of the Red Cross in favour of peace. There are those who are not satisfied to see it confine itself to attenuating the effects of war, but insist that it attack the evil of war at its root and participate directly in the fight against this scourge.

(b) To protect life and health

It has often been said in the past that the Red Cross fights against suffering, but up to now little has been said about its fight against death. This, nevertheless, is just as important an aspect as the former; it is a supreme objective of the Red Cross to save lives. It achieves this both by its action of assistance and its action of protection¹. But, since death is finally inescapable, it can clearly act only to delay its coming.

Statistics inform us that the average length of human life in western Europe was 20 years under the Romans, 40 years in 1800 and around 70 years today. In the Crimean war in the last century, 60% of the wounded died, whereas 100 years later, in the Korean war, the figure for the American forces was down to 2%. In addition, during the military campaigns in the second half of the 19th century, deaths due to disease among the troops were triple or even quintuple the number of losses caused by arms. All this has radically changed, thanks to antiseptic measures and the great advance of medical science. The action of the Red Cross has also been a substantial factor.

Some philosophers maintain that the moral value of an act of charity depends upon the nobility of purpose of the one who performs it. Possibly so, but for the Red Cross what counts is that it be effective, that

¹ The Twenty-third International Red Cross Conference, in Resolution I ("The Red Cross Mission") emphasized the extreme importance of the National Societies' medico-social activities in preventing disease, promoting health and encouraging among their members a sense of social responsibility and the giving of voluntary service.

it be beneficial to those who suffer. As stated in the Koran, *The perfect man is the one most useful to others*. It does not matter a great deal, after all, in what spirit the act is performed. It is certainly true that donors sometimes have ulterior motives of self-interest, vanity or political propaganda—but it already counts for a great deal that people have been relieved, who otherwise would have received no help.

But the way in which that help is given is of great importance. When nursing a patient or giving help, one must show some humanity, that is to say, in this instance, tact, imagination and intelligence. *What is charity which shows no sense of decency towards the unfortunate person and which, before comforting him, begins by crushing his self-respect?* wrote Marivaux. It is true that an act of kindness clumsily bestowed may humiliate the person receiving it and even be taken as an insult. Therefore, the person who is giving or helping must not make his pity felt, but must show a cheerful face to the world. Why? Because happiness is contagious and it does good. It is as simple as that. To give happiness is also charity; sometimes even very great charity. Besides it is not difficult to smile. It is enough to reflect that one is bringing a little happiness to a frequently unhappy world.

Only in the past few years has there been a recognition of the need to “humanize” hospitals. It is no longer enough to make sure that the care is good; the time in hospital must be made as agreeable as possible for the patient and the utmost respect must be accorded to his customs and to his freedom, that most precious possession. Hospitals have made great technical advances, but even today, too often, sicknesses are being treated instead of individuals, who are regarded simply as “numbers”, and there is a neglect of the human relations between those giving and receiving the treatment. This of course is just one consequence of the degeneration of social relations which we observe everywhere, on the highways, in stores, buses and trains—resulting from the erosion of family patterns.

It is in the hospitals, however, and in asylums and old people’s homes where, feeling themselves to be in a state of inferiority and dependence and all the more vulnerable and sensitive, people suffer most from an absence of human sympathy and warmth. Research has demonstrated that patients show better and quicker recovery in a sympathetic and gay atmosphere. There is no merit to be found in grey walls, sour faces and tasteless food. Then, let us have pretty pictures on the walls and smiles

on our faces ! The giving of joy is also charity, and perhaps the greatest charity sometimes.

The National Societies, in their training of nurses and social workers, can play a splendid role in this respect.

Jean PICTET

(To be continued)

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

Retirement of Mr. Pictet and appointment of Mr. Pestalozzi

Upon reaching retirement age, Mr. Jean Pictet, former Director General and, at present, Vice-President of the ICRC, will relinquish his post on 30 June, after forty-two years of service. The ICRC has expressed its deep gratitude to Mr. Pictet for his invaluable services during the distinguished career that he dedicated entirely to the Red Cross. Mr. Pictet will remain a member of the ICRC, thus continuing to participate in the work of the institution.

The ICRC Assembly has designated Mr. Richard Pestalozzi, who is now Special Assistant to the President, to succeed Mr. Pictet as Vice-President as of 1 July.

Recognition of the Swaziland Red Cross Society

GENEVA, 20 April 1979

Circular No. 513

*To the Central Committees of the National Red Cross,
Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to inform you that the International Committee of the Red Cross, on 4 April 1979, officially recognized the Swaziland Red Cross Society.

Founded as a branch of the British Red Cross in 1932, this new Society officially applied for recognition by the International Committee on 1 August 1978. Its request was supported by a report on its activities, the text of its Statutes, and a copy of the "Baphalali Swaziland Red

Cross Society Act, 1969” recognizing it as the only National Red Cross Society and as an auxiliary to the public authorities.

These documents, which were examined jointly by the International Committee and the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies, showed that the ten qualifying conditions for recognition of a new National Society had been fulfilled.

This recognition, which the International Committee is pleased to announce, brings to 126 the total number of member Societies of the International Red Cross.

The Swaziland Red Cross Society, which was visited in 1978 and other years by representatives of the International Committee and of the League, is active throughout the country. The Society, whose force lies in the goodwill of its voluntary workers, undertakes various medico-social activities: it provides medical assistance to mothers and infants, trains nursing assistants and voluntary workers, gives first-aid courses, and materially assists a number of elderly, handicapped and needy people.

The Government of Swaziland acceded to the 1949 Geneva Conventions on 28 June 1973, with effect from 28 December 1973.

The Society is presided over by Dr. A. M. Nxumalo. Its headquarters is at Mbabane.¹

The International Committee of the Red Cross has pleasure in welcoming the Swaziland Red Cross Society to membership of the International Red Cross, in accrediting it and commending it, by this circular, to all other National Societies, and in expressing sincere good wishes for its future and for the success of its humanitarian work.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

Alexandre HAY

President

¹ The new Society's address is: Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 377, Mbabane, Swaziland.

Twenty-seventh award of the Florence Nightingale Medal

GENEVA, 12 MAY 1979

Circular No. 514

*To the Central Committees of National Red Cross,
Red Crescent, and Red Lion and Sun Societies*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In its Circular No. 510 of 23 August 1978, the International Committee of the Red Cross had the honour to invite the Central Committees of National Societies to send in the names of nurses and voluntary aids whom they judged qualified to receive the Florence Nightingale Medal. This invitation, which quoted Article 1 of the Regulations, was accompanied by application forms to be completed by National Societies.

The chief object of this Medal is to honour nurses and voluntary aids who have distinguished themselves exceptionally by their devotion to sick or wounded in the difficult and perilous situations which often prevail in times of war or public disaster. The Regulations also provide that not more than thirty-six medals shall be awarded every two years and that the candidates' names must reach the International Committee of the Red Cross *before 1 March* of the year in which the award is to take place.

In accordance with these Regulations, the International Committee, after a careful study of the fifty-two candidatures submitted by twenty-seven National Societies, has the pleasure of announcing that for the twenty-seventh distribution the Medal has been awarded to the following nurses and voluntary aids: ¹

¹ Since the designation, qualification and duties of nursing personnel do not always have an exact equivalent in the various languages, it seemed to be preferable to leave them as indicated by each Society.

AUSTRALIA

1. *Miss Edith Elizabeth Harler*, Graduate Nurse. Sister Tutor R.A.A.M.C. Lieut. Colonel. Retired Nurse. Administrator. Active voluntary worker.
2. *Miss Jenny Elizabeth Leak*, Registered Nurse. Registered Midwife. Registered Infant Welfare Nurse. Employed by the South Australian Health Commission in the School Health Branch.

CANADA

3. *Miss Edna Elizabeth Rossiter*, Graduate Nurse. Major in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps. Retired Registered Nurse. Volunteer.

COSTA RICA

4. *Srta. Elena Quesada Saborio*, Enfermera diplomada. Jefe Nacional Sección Enfermería Voluntaria, Cruz Roja Costarricense.

CUBA

5. *Srta. Evidia Álvarez Gonzales*, Enfermera diplomada. Diploma de auxiliar voluntaria de la Cruz Roja. Instructora voluntaria de la Cruz Roja.
6. *Sra. Juana Puentes Camachos*, Enfermera diplomada. Diploma de auxiliar voluntaria de la Cruz Roja. Instructora voluntaria de la Cruz Roja.

FRANCE

7. *M^{lle} Adèle Laithier*, Infirmière hospitalière U.F.F. de la Croix-Rouge française. Présidente du Comité de la C.R.F. de Pontarlier. Actuellement présidente d'honneur de ce Comité.
8. *M^{lle} Yvonne Le Bailly*, Infirmière diplômée d'Etat. Assistante sociale. Directrice des Enseignements de la Croix-Rouge française. Retraîtée.
9. *M^{lle} Françoise Marminia*, Infirmière diplômée d'Etat. Directrice d'Ecole d'infirmières. Infirmière Major. Vice-présidente du Comité de la C.R.F. de Paris.
10. *M^{lle} Jane Martin*, Infirmière hospitalière diplômée d'Etat. Diplôme d'Etat d'assistance sociale. Directrice de la première école de Cadres infirmiers en France. Directrice nationale des infirmières et assistantes sociales de la Croix-Rouge française. Présidente du Conseil départemental de la Croix-Rouge française de la Charente.

GUATEMALA

11. *Srta. Estela Ortega Peña*, Diplomada y Auxiliar Voluntaria de la Cruz Roja. Instructora. Jefe de Instructoras de Primeros Auxilios. Miembro de la Junta Directiva del Comité de Damas.

HUNGARY

12. *M^{me} Erzsébet Alexander*, Diplôme d'Auxiliaire volontaire. Assistante générale. Directrice d'un poste de secours. Retraitée. A repris ses fonctions comme assistante de chirurgie à l'hôpital militaire de Budapest.
13. *M^{lle} Agnes Boné*, Auxiliaire volontaire de la Croix-Rouge hongroise. Diplôme d'accoucheuse. Infirmière chef de l'hôpital militaire de Debrecen. Retraitée.
14. *M^{me} Anna Kresz*, Auxiliaire volontaire de la Croix-Rouge hongroise dans les hôpitaux civils et militaires. Gérante. Membre actif de la direction de la section locale de la Croix-Rouge de Mohács.
15. *M^{me} Zsöfia Nitsch*, Auxiliaire volontaire de la Croix-Rouge hongroise dans les hôpitaux militaires. Retraitée.
16. *M^{me} Marianna Roth*, Infirmière diplômée. Diplôme de puériculture et d'infirmière de pédiatrie. Chef de service de protection des mères et des nourrissons.
17. *M^{me} Anna Sárospataky*, Auxiliaire volontaire de la Croix-Rouge hongroise. Chef d'équipe des infirmières hongroises de l'hôpital militaire de Munkács. Retraitée.

INDIA

18. *Miss Gertrude A. Ram*, First Major General in the Military Nursing Service. Director of Military Nursing Service. Retired.

JAPAN

19. *Miss Suzu Iizuka*, Graduate Nurse. Japanese Red Cross Head Relief Nurse. Director Nursing Department of the Japanese Red Cross Central Hospital. Member of the Board of Directors of the J.R.C. Nurses Alumni Association.
20. *Miss Kiyoko Kobayashi*, Graduate Nurse. Japanese Red Cross Head Relief Nurse. Director, Instruction Department of the J.R.C. Institute for Post Graduate Nurses.

NETHERLANDS

21. *Sister Elsje Adèle van den Berg*, Graduate Nurse. Midwife. Diploma speciality children's oncology. Nurse in oncology, Emma Children's Hospital, Amsterdam.

POLAND

22. *M^{me} Wanda Janina Batkowska*, Auxiliaire volontaire de la Croix-Rouge polonaise. Infirmière en chef à la station de protection de la mère et de l'enfant aux établissements industriels à Mikuszowice Slaskie. Infirmière en chef puis conseillère à la Direction du service de santé des chemins de fer de Varsovie.
23. *M^{me} Józefa Juszcak*, infirmière diplômée. Membre du corps de secours d'urgence de la Croix-Rouge polonaise. Retraitée.
24. *M^{lle} Irena Kowalska*, Infirmière d'Etat. Diplôme professionnel de l'école d'infirmières d'enfants. Retraitée.
25. *M^{me} Stanisława Król*, Infirmière d'Etat. Auxiliaire volontaire de la Croix-Rouge polonaise. Infirmière en chef de la Station de Service d'urgence à Radom. Retraitée.
26. *M^{me} Elzbieta Lohman*, Infirmière diplômée. Volontaire. Infirmière-chef de l'hôpital de Bielsko-Biała. Retraitée.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

27. *Mrs. Am Nyo Kim*, Voluntary aid. Graduate Nurse. Midwife. Major in the Army Medical Corps. Chief of the Nursing Section of the National Veteran's Hospital.

UNITED KINGDOM

28. *Miss Diana Mary Elvidge*, SRN., SCM. State Registered Nurse. State Certificated Midwife. Matron. Researcher. Industrial Nurse.
29. *Mrs. Eileen Gilbert*, O.B.E. Voluntary Aid. Assistant Commandant. County Director. Chief Welfare Office of the Northern Ireland Branch. Deputy President of the Co. Down Branch of the Northern Ireland Central Council and Administrative Officer at the Eleanor Ferguson Red Cross House in Bangor.

SIERRA LEONE

30. *Mrs. Daisy Saraphina Easmon-Delanay*, State Registered Nurse. State Certified Midwife. Matron. Chief Nurse Officer. Voluntary work, member of the Board of Governors, National School of Nursing, Sierra Leone.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

31. *Mrs. Božena Lacková*, Graduate Nurse and Voluntary Aid. Instructor in the Department of Medical Education. Pensioner, still voluntary Nurse of the Czechoslovak Red Cross.

THAILAND

32. *Miss Rabiab Panthupeng*, Graduate Nurse. Midwife. Public Health Nurse. Head Nurse. Head of Department of the Red Cross Health Centres, Relief Division of the Thai Red Cross Society.

U.S.S.R.

33. *M^{me} Ekaterina Diomina*, Infirmière diplômée. Infirmière dans l'Armée active. Chef de laboratoire, section médico-sanitaire. Chef-adjoint du cabinet d'études méthodiques du Ministère de la Santé de l'U.R.S.S.
34. *M^{lle} Saria Talychkhanova*, Infirmière diplômée. Infirmière au Comité central du Croissant-Rouge de la R.S.S. d'Azerbaïdjan.
35. *M^{lle} Arfénia Enguïbarova*, Infirmière diplômée. Infirmière chirurgicale en chef de la clinique ophtalmologique. Infirmière d'Armée en campagne. Aide-médecin de la section médicale du Ministère.
36. *M^{lle} Rikhsi Mouminova*, Infirmière diplômée. Infirmière de bataillon sanitaire dans l'Armée en campagne. Infirmière au poste d'urgence de la Cité d'Akkourgan.

The medals and diplomas, accompanied in each case by a photogravure reproduction of the portrait of Florence Nightingale, will be sent as quickly as possible to the Central Committees. The International Committee of the Red Cross would like to receive acknowledgments of their receipt in due course.

The Committee would be grateful if the Medals could be presented in the course of this year and requests the Central Committees to invest the presentation ceremony with a character of formality in keeping with the founders' wishes.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF THE RED CROSS

Alexandre HAY

President

*EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES***Africa****Rhodesia/Zimbabwe**

In April, as in previous months, the ICRC delegation in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe continued its protection and relief activities to victims of the conflict. However, the atmosphere of insecurity prevalent in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe during the election period led the delegation to take strict precautionary measures until 24 April. In addition, the ICRC medical teams suspended all their journeys by air in the south of the country after the ICRC plane was hit by bullets; the damage was fortunately not serious, and no-one was injured.

Whilst this suspension was in force, the ICRC medical staff made use of their time in Salisbury by organizing a basic first aid course for the delegation's local staff.

Medical work nonetheless continued in the area around the capital, as well as in Victoria Province (where it was decided to set up a permanent clinic at the local Red Cross centre in Fort Victoria), in the Mazoe districts, at Mary Mount Mission, and finally at Harare Market and Seke camp. In March, the ICRC medical teams treated a total of 2,777 out-patients, undertook 31 major operations and 90 others involving minor surgery.

The distribution of relief supplies also continued. In March, the total value of these supplies was 227,000 Swiss francs (226 tons of foodstuffs, 400 kg. of soap, 3,460 blankets and 6,000 items of clothing), whereas in April, the Salisbury delegation alone distributed 4.2 tons of powdered milk, 5.4 tons of foodstuffs (cereals, salt, sugar, etc.), 675 kg. of soap, and 315 blankets, to a total value of 22,000 Swiss francs.

In Matabeleland, an emergency relief programme was launched for the protected village of Tshawingo, where the population had increased sharply as a result of the closure of another protected village, Tshituzabasti. Relief supplies for 2,000 people—including 500 children—were made available (6.2 tons of foodstuffs, 875 kg. of powdered milk and 250 kg. of soap).

Some weeks ago, 48 families from the Chizambabhuyo region were transferred to Seke, with a consequent rise in the camp's population. An agronomist was sent there to provide the population with basic knowledge on cultivating vegetables, and the ICRC provided seeds and fertilizer for this assistance programme. The ICRC organized a regular bus service for 70 children living in the camp to enable them to continue attending school in Harare.

With regard to protection activities, the ICRC delegates visited Wha Wha prison on 27 March, distributing relief supplies to the detainees who numbered about 225 at the time. Some 300 educational books were also handed over at Wha Wha, with a similar distribution being prepared for Khami prison.

The bus service for families visiting detained relatives is still operating. Since it launched its programme in 1973, the ICRC has organised a twice-weekly service for a total of 2,576 persons from Salisbury, Bulawayo, Fort Victoria, Umtali and Shabani.

*

From 30 April to 9 May, Mr. Jakob Burckhardt, member of the ICRC, carried out a mission to southern Africa, accompanied by Mr. Frank Schmidt, delegate general for Africa, and Mr. Hans Peter Gasser, head of the Legal Division. Mr. Burckhardt first visited South Africa, where he attended the monthly meeting in Johannesburg for ICRC delegates in southern Africa and Rhodesia/Zimbabwe. Going on to Salisbury, Mr. Burckhardt had talks with the local Red Cross authorities and with officials of the United African National Congress. He also had the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of the ICRC's fieldwork by accompanying the delegates on visits, notably to the missions at St. Anthony and Dotito.

Botswana

The ICRC continued its assistance activity in the refugee camps of Selebi Pikwe, Francistown and Dukwe, which provide shelter for some

19,000 persons. Hygiene and public health problems remain priority concerns, in view of the large number of refugees there and the possibility of the capacity of the camps being increased to 30,000. Mr. El Badri, a public health specialist seconded to the ICRC by the World Health Organization, recently toured the camps once more, to give lessons on hygiene, assess the situation and monitor the construction of sanitary facilities (latrines, drinking water pipes, drains, etc.).

The distribution of relief supplies also continued in the camps, including powdered milk, clothing, tents, medical supplies, disinfectants, sewing machines, etc. Over 2.7 tons of supplies were distributed in this way in March. Furthermore, vitamin tablets were given out to 4,000 school-age children in Dukwe camp.

Zambia

The public health specialist, Mr. El Badri, also visited Zambia, accompanied by representatives of the High Commissioner for Refugees and Unicef, to inspect the site of a new boys' camp in the Solwezi region, some 600 km. from Lusaka.

The distribution of relief supplies continued: one ton of powdered milk was given for the refugee children; building materials for the girls' camps; relief supplies for Lusaka and Solwezi hospitals, and for the refugee camps (approx. 8,000 bars of soap and 250 kg. of soap in bulk).

The ICRC handed over medical supplies worth 50,000 dollars to the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka, for treating the wounded from camps that had suffered in recent raids. The hospital's stocks had been drastically reduced because of the emergency situation in February and needed to be built up again urgently. For this purpose, the ICRC provided emergency stocks in Lusaka, consisting mainly of medical supplies and blankets.

Tanzania/Uganda

As mentioned in the last issue of *International Review*, the ICRC has been present in Uganda since March, to provide assistance to the victims of the conflict with Tanzania.

As a result of the fighting that led to the fall of Kampala, some 50,000 persons abandoned their villages, and the ICRC consequently

intensified its relief activities. In this context, a five-man delegation—including a doctor and a specialist from the Central Tracing Agency—left Switzerland for the Ugandan capital on 27 April.

On their arrival, they promptly organized ICRC aid to the tune of 10 tons of medical supplies and equipment, five tons of powdered milk, 2,000 blankets and 1,000 bars of soap, all for immediate distribution. Relief supplies, purchased in Kenya, are transported in two lorries and a landrover which the ICRC bought in view of the virtual non-existence of means of transport and local communications in the country.

A local evaluation made by the ICRC doctor delegate concluded with the proposal that, in addition, medical supplies be provided to 20 high and medium capacity hospitals and some 15 dispensaries.

Besides its relief activities, the ICRC visits prisoners of war in Uganda and will soon be doing likewise in Tanzania.

Ethiopia

The ICRC continues to provide assistance to the population of the Ogaden region, by distributing considerable quantities of basic relief supplies (foodstuffs, medical supplies and blankets).

In March and April, 135 tons of foodstuffs (high protein foods, sugar, powdered milk, oil, cereals), 4 tons of soap, 4,950 blankets, 15 tents and five standard medical units for dispensaries were distributed in the Harargue, Sidamo, Bale, Gondar and Tigray areas.

Finally, the ICRC supplied 20 tons of high protein foods, as well as cooking equipment and medical units for dispensaries to the victims of fighting in Eritrea.

In the medical sphere, the ICRC specialist team has begun treating an initial contingent of amputees and paraplegics at the Debre-Zeyit centre, not far from the capital.

Zaire

Five ICRC delegates went on mission to Zaire from 21 April to 11 May. They carried out a series of visits to places of detention, where they evaluated the situation with a view to possible protection and assistance activities for the detainees. These visits involved 13 prisons throughout the country, and the ICRC delegates saw a total of 2,009 detainees, 243 of whom had been imprisoned for political reasons.

Chad

In March and April, the ICRC carried out a series of distributions in N'Djamena, because of the influx of people who had fled from their villages in the south, where fighting was going on. During these two months, the ICRC distributed some 11.5 tons of foodstuffs to the displaced persons—about a thousand in all—who had found refuge in various parts of the capital. The ICRC also dispatched relief supplies to several towns in the south of the country.

The ICRC delegates, based in the north of the country, at the same time continued their protection and assistance activities for the prisoners of war and their families in the hands of FROLINAT. They visited 445 prisoners of war and civilian detainees in some ten camps. Nearly 46 tons of foodstuffs—equivalent to 8 to 10 weeks rations—were distributed in March and April. These relief supplies were supplemented by extra distributions to the prisoners (cigarettes, soap, etc.), and by a contribution of 3,500 Swiss francs for the local purchase of meat.

The ICRC has provided medical supplies to a number of hospitals throughout the country. Under its auspices, 18 wounded persons were evacuated to hospitals in Faya (8 persons), N'Djamena (10 persons) so that they could receive appropriate treatment.

There is still a considerable flow of family correspondence between N'Djamena and northern Chad. The ICRC undertakes mail transportation and delivery in view of the total lack of alternative means of communication in the country. Almost 1,500 messages arrive every month at the ICRC office in Faya for distribution in the south.

Latin America

Nicaragua

As a result of the confrontations that occurred in April at Esteli, in the north of Nicaragua, the ICRC and the National Red Cross Society launched an emergency programme for victims of the fighting.

On 11 and 14 April, two convoys were arranged to bring supplies to several hundred persons who had taken refuge in the Red Cross headquarters in Esteli and in the Rosario College, and who were experiencing difficult material conditions. The President of the National Society, the ICRC delegate, five doctors and 33 relief workers accompanied the convoys. The distribution of foodstuffs, medical supplies and drinking

water was thus carried out, and eight severely wounded persons were evacuated by air, the very same day, for Managua, where they were hospitalized.

Furthermore, the ICRC dispatched 11,000 dollars' worth of medical supplies to local Red Cross sections in several towns throughout the country.

In April, ICRC delegates visited about 260 detainees in seven places of detention and three hospitals. Since the ICRC began working in Nicaragua in September 1978, it has visited a total of nearly 900 people detained in 24 places of detention throughout the country.

The ICRC delegates also went to three embassies, where about one hundred people had taken refuge, distributing medical supplies for their use.

Argentina

Visits to places of detention in Argentina continued in April, as did the assistance programme for needy families of detainees.

The ICRC delegates visited Coronda, Cordoba, Rio Cuarto, Resistencia and La Plata prisons, where they saw a total of 649 persons who had been detained in connection with the events.

The ICRC distributed extra food supplies to about a thousand needy families, to a total value of approximately 11,500 dollars in April.

Chile

An ICRC delegate went on mission to Chile from 16 to 26 April, where he had various talks with the authorities and with the heads of the National Red Cross Society.

During his stay in the country, he also visited five places of detention, where he saw 57 persons detained for security reasons. In the course of these visits, relief supplies from ICRC stocks were handed over.

Asia

China-Viet Nam conflict

On 19 February, the ICRC offered its services to the Governments of the People's Republic of China and the Socialist Republic of Viet

Nam, shortly after the outbreak of fighting between the two countries. In view of the favourable replies received, the ICRC immediately initiated humanitarian action in favour of the victims on both sides, on the basis of the Geneva Conventions of 1949.

A first mission to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam took place from 5 to 14 April 1979, when two delegates and two doctors joined the ICRC permanent delegate in Hanoi. Accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Red Cross of Viet Nam, the ICRC delegates visited two of the six provinces affected by the fighting—Lang Son and Cao Bang—where they assessed the needs of the civilian population. It was decided to implement an emergency medical assistance programme, and a three-ton consignment of medical material and supplies was dispatched to Viet Nam at the end of the month.

An ICRC team returned to the Vietnamese capital on 23 May, to visit the Chinese prisoners captured by the Vietnamese Armed Forces.

A mission to the People's Republic of China took place from 24 April to 10 May. It was led by Mr. Marcel-A. Naville, former President and member of the ICRC, and comprised Mr. Jean de Courten, delegate general for Asia and Oceania, and Mr. Dominique Borel, regional delegate. Talks were held with the authorities and the heads of the Red Cross Society of China; then the ICRC representatives visited 1,620 Vietnamese prisoners detained in six camps and a hospital in the south of the country.

Under an agreement between the Chinese and Vietnamese authorities, it was decided to begin repatriating the prisoners of war.

An initial simultaneous repatriation operation, involving 120 Vietnamese prisoners and 43 Chinese prisoners, either sick or wounded, took place on 21 May under the auspices of the Red Cross Societies of both countries and in the presence of the ICRC delegates. The exchange was carried out at the border post known as "Friendship Pass", located on the railway line linking the Chinese town of Nanning with that of Lang Son in Viet Nam.

A second operation for repatriating sick and wounded prisoners took place under similar conditions on 28 May: 118 wounded Vietnamese prisoners and 20 Chinese prisoners were repatriated.

Philippines

The Third Conference of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Far-East countries took place in Manila from 2 to 5 April 1979. An ICRC delegation, composed of Mr. Jean de Courten, delegate general for Asia and Oceania, Mr. Nicolas Vecsey, deputy director of the ICRC

Central Tracing Agency, and Mr. Roland Duc, regional delegate for South-East Asia, attended the meeting. Among the main items on the conference agenda was the problem of the Vietnamese "boat people", and the reception, assistance and immigration difficulties that they are causing in those South-East Asian countries that are presently granting them temporary shelter.

Mr. de Courten and Mr. Vecsey read papers on international humanitarian law and the role of the Central Tracing Agency. The Agency, it will be remembered, works in close co-operation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the National Societies of the countries involved, undertaking the exchange of correspondence between refugees and their families, the tracing of missing persons and the reunion of separated families.

Prior to attending the Manila conference, Mr. Vecsey visited Kuala Lumpur, Tokyo and Hong Kong for talks with the heads of National Red Cross Societies on the measures that the Agency could take with regard to the Vietnamese refugee problem.

Thailand

In March and April, the ICRC delegates based in Thailand visited a total of 4,388 persons who had entered the country illegally from Cambodia, and who were located in 22 places of detention in the east and north-east of Thailand. Relief supplies were distributed during these visits.

Indonesia

On 6 and 7 April, an ICRC delegate went to the island of Buru to hand over relief supplies for political detainees who had been visited in December 1978. Consignments of books and medical supplies, worth some 12,500 Swiss francs, were distributed. The medical supplies are sufficient for treating about 6,000 persons for a year.

During 1978, some twenty other places of detention in Indonesia also received relief supplies when visited by the delegates. The total amount of assistance provided by the ICRC in places of detention in Indonesia is of the order of 44,000 Swiss francs.

Middle East

Lebanon

An emergency situation has once more arisen in the south of Lebanon, as a result of military operations that took place there in April.

The ICRC delegates based in Tyre have carried out several assessments in the field and distributed medical supplies and material to various dispensaries and hospitals in the area.

The ICRC continues to monitor the situation closely, particularly the movement of populations fleeing the combat zones, so that emergency relief can be provided if necessary.

Israel and the Occupied Territories

Several transfer operations took place in April under the auspices of the ICRC between Israel and neighbouring territories.

On 2 April, a young South Lebanese woman who had received medical care in Israel was repatriated at the Ras Nakura border post.

On 3 April, on the occupied Golan Heights, a young Syrian woman was transferred to the Syrian Arab Republic where her fiancé and his family were waiting to greet her.

On 5 April, at Allenby Bridge, the Jordanian authorities handed over to the Israeli authorities a man who had crossed into Jordanian territory.

On 30 April, there was a two-way transfer of students and persons visiting relatives, who crossed the United Nations buffer zone in the north of the Sinai: 11 students and 135 visitors were transported to Cairo from the occupied territories of Gaza and the Sinai, whilst 13 students and 200 visitors travelled to the occupied territories.

Yemen Arab Republic

As previously mentioned, the ICRC launched a relief programme in the Yemen Arab Republic in March, focussing on the civilian population who had suffered from the recent fighting on the border with the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. A delegate visited Sana'a

where, in conjunction with officials of the Yemeni Red Crescent, he assessed the needs and set up a distribution programme involving supplies worth 350,000 Swiss francs.

In April, this mission was extended when an ICRC relief specialist went to the south of the country. Furthermore, the ICRC supplied the Government and the Red Crescent Society with about one hundred tents, offered by the British Government, which were used to set up a camp near the capital. In addition, that same month, emergency relief supplies—mainly consisting of camp equipment—were distributed to displaced persons in the various camps where they had been resettled under the responsibility of the Red Crescent and the authorities.

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

Commission on the Red Cross and Peace

At the invitation of the Egyptian Red Crescent, the Commission on the Red Cross and Peace met in Cairo from 1 to 4 May 1979. Its fifteen members—a dozen National Societies, the ICRC, the League and the Henry Dunant Institute—met under the chairmanship of Mr. Harald Huber, ICRC Vice-President.

The opening ceremony, attended by Mrs Jihan Sadat, President of the Egyptian Red Crescent, was followed by four work sessions on subjects relating to the Red Cross contribution to the promotion of peace, namely, the dissemination of knowledge of international humanitarian law, League development programmes, Red Cross youth programmes, etc.

The ICRC delegation took advantage of its stay in Cairo to have a number of meetings with the leading members of the Egyptian Red Crescent, thus helping to strengthen the bond of friendship between that National Society and the ICRC.

Seminar at the Henry Dunant Institute

From 10 to 17 May 1979, the Henry Dunant Institute organised its third Course of introduction to the international activities of the Red Cross. This course, which is a regular activity of the Institute, is intended for leaders of National Red Cross Societies.

This year's course was for English-speaking countries, and it brought together 29 participants from twenty countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Europe. The participants took part in a series of discussions on the basic principles of the Red Cross, the organisation and activities of the ICRC and of the League of Red Cross Societies, on the cooperation between Red Cross institutions, and on the principles of International Humanitarian Law.

EXTRACT FROM THE STATUTES OF
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

ADOPTED 21 JUNE 1973

ART. 1. — *International Committee of the Red Cross*

1. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), founded in Geneva in 1863 and formally recognized in the Geneva Conventions and by International Conferences of the Red Cross, shall be an independent organization having its own Statutes.

2. It shall be a constituent part of the International Red Cross.¹

ART. 2. — *Legal Status*

As an association governed by Articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code, the ICRC shall have legal personality.

ART. 3. — *Headquarters and Emblem*

The headquarters of the ICRC shall be in Geneva.

Its emblem shall be a red cross on a white ground. Its motto shall be *Inter arma caritas*.

ART. 4. — *Role*

1. The special role of the ICRC shall be:

- (a) to maintain the fundamental principles of the Red Cross as proclaimed by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross;
- (b) to recognize any newly established or reconstituted National Red Cross Society which fulfils the conditions for recognition in force, and to notify other National Societies of such recognition;
- (c) to undertake the tasks incumbent on it under the Geneva Conventions, to work for the faithful application of these Conventions and to take cognizance of any complaints regarding alleged breaches of the humanitarian Conventions;
- (d) to take action in its capacity as a neutral institution, especially in case of war, civil war or internal strife; to endeavour to ensure at all times that the military and civilian victims of such conflicts and of their direct results receive protection and assistance, and to serve in humanitarian matters, as an intermediary between the parties;
- (e) to ensure the operation of the Central Information Agencies provided for in the Geneva Conventions;
- (f) to contribute, in view of such conflicts, to the preparation and development of medical personnel and medical equipment, in co-operation with the Red Cross organizations, the medical services of the armed forces, and other competent authorities;
- (g) to work for the continual improvement of humanitarian international law and for the better understanding and diffusion of the Geneva Conventions and to prepare for their possible extension;
- (h) to accept the mandates entrusted to it by the International Conferences of the Red Cross.

2. The ICRC may also take any humanitarian initiative which comes within its role as a specifically neutral and independent institution and consider any question requiring examination by such an institution.

ART. 6 (first paragraph). — *Membership of the ICRC*

The ICRC shall co-opt its members from among Swiss citizens. It shall comprise fifteen to twenty-five members.

¹ The International Red Cross comprises the National Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. The term "National Red Cross Societies" includes the Red Crescent Societies and the Red Lion and Sun Society.

ADDRESSES OF NATIONAL SOCIETIES

- AFGHANISTAN (Democratic Republic) — Afghan Red Crescent, Pul-i Artan, *Kabul*.
- PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA — Albanian Red Cross. 35. Rruga e Barrikadave, *Tirana*.
- ALGERIA (Democratic and People's Republic) — Algerian Red Crescent Society, 15 bis, Boulevard Mohamed V, *Algiers*.
- ARGENTINA — Argentine Red Cross. H. Yrigoyen 2068, 1089 *Buenos Aires*.
- AUSTRALIA — Australian Red Cross, 206. Clarendon Street, *East Melbourne 3002*.
- AUSTRIA — Austrian Red Cross, 3 Gusshausstrasse, Postfach 39, *Vienna 4*.
- BAHAMAS — Bahamas Red Cross Society, P.O. Box N 91, *Nassau*.
- BAHRAIN — Bahrain Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 882, *Manama*.
- BANGLADESH — Bangladesh Red Cross Society, 34, Bangabandhu Avenue, *Dacca 2*.
- PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN — Red Cross of Benin, B.P. 1, *Porto Novo*.
- BELGIUM — Belgian Red Cross, 98 Chaussée de Vleurgat, 1050 *Brussels*.
- BOLIVIA — Bolivian Red Cross, Avenida Simón Bolívar, 1515, *La Paz*.
- BOTSWANA — Botswana Red Cross Society, Independence Avenue, P.O. Box 485, *Gaborone*.
- BRAZIL — Brazilian Red Cross, Praça Cruz Vermelha 10-12, *Rio de Janeiro*.
- BULGARIA — Bulgarian Red Cross, 1, Boul. Biruzov, *Sofia 27*.
- BURMA (Socialist Republic of the Union of) — Burma Red Cross, 42 Strand Road, Red Cross Building, *Rangoon*.
- BURUNDI — Red Cross Society of Burundi, rue du Marché 3, P.O. Box 324, *Bujumbura*.
- CAMEROON — Cameroon Red Cross Society, rue Henry-Dunant, P.O.B. 631, *Yaoundé*.
- CANADA — Canadian Red Cross, 95 Wellesley Street East, *Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 1H6*.
- CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE — Central African Red Cross, B.P. 1428, *Bangui*.
- CHILE — Chilean Red Cross, Avenida Santa María 0150, Correo 21, Casilla 246V., *Santiago*.
- CHINA (People's Republic) — Red Cross Society of China, 22 Kanmien Hutung, *Peking, E*.
- COLOMBIA — Colombian Red Cross, Carrera 7a., 34-65, Apartado nacional 1110, *Bogotá D.E.*
- CONGO, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF THE — Croix-Rouge Congolaise, place de la Paix, *Brazzaville*.
- COSTA RICA — Costa Rican Red Cross, Calle 14, Avenida 8, Apartado 1025, *San José*.
- CUBA — Cuban Red Cross, Calle 23 201 esq. N. Vedado, *Havana*.
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA — Czechoslovak Red Cross, Thunovska 18, 118 04 *Prague 1*.
- DENMARK — Danish Red Cross, Ny Vestergade 17, DK-1741 *Copenhagen K*.
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC — Dominican Red Cross, Apartado Postal 1293, *Santo Domingo*.
- ECUADOR — Ecuadorian Red Cross, Calle de la Cruz Roja y Avenida Colombia, 118, *Quito*.
- EGYPT (Arab Republic of) — Egyptian Red Crescent Society, 29, El-Galaa Street, *Cairo*.
- EL SALVADOR — El Salvador Red Cross, 3a Avenida Norte y 3a Calle Poniente, *San Salvador, C.A.*
- ETHIOPIA — Ethiopian Red Cross, Ras Desta Damtew Avenue, *Addis Ababa*.
- FIJI — Fiji Red Cross Society, 193 Rodwell Road, P.O. Box 569, *Suva*.
- FINLAND — Finnish Red Cross, Tehtaankatu 1 A, Box 168, 00141 *Helsinki 14/15*.
- FRANCE — French Red Cross, 17 rue Quentin Bauchart, F-75384 *Paris CEDEX 08*.
- GAMBIA — The Gambia Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 472, *Banjul*.
- GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC — German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic, Kaitzerstrasse 2, DDR 801 *Dresden 1*.
- GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF — German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 71, 5300, *Bonn 1*, Postfach (D.B.R.).
- GHANA — Ghana Red Cross, National Headquarters, Ministries Annex A3, P.O. Box 835, *Accra*.
- GREECE — Hellenic Red Cross, rue Lycavittou 1, *Athens 135*.
- GUATEMALA — Guatemalan Red Cross, 3ª Calle 8-40, Zona 1, *Ciudad de Guatemala*.
- GUYANA — Guyana Red Cross, P.O. Box 351, Eve Leary, *Georgetown*.
- HAITI — Haiti Red Cross, Place des Nations Unies, B.P. 1337, *Port-au-Prince*.
- HONDURAS — Honduran Red Cross, 7a Calle, 1a y 2a Avenidas, *Comayagüela, D.M.*
- HUNGARY — Hungarian Red Cross, V. Arany János utca 31, *Budapest V*. Mail Add.: 1367 *Budapest 5*, Pf. 249.
- ICELAND — Icelandic Red Cross, Nóatúni 21, 105 *Reykjavik*.
- INDIA — Indian Red Cross, 1 Red Cross Road, *New Delhi 110001*.
- INDONESIA — Indonesian Red Cross, Jalan Abdul Muis 66, P.O. Box 2009, *Djakarta*.
- IRAN — Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, Av. Villa, Carrefour Takhté Djamchid, *Teheran*.
- IRAQ — Iraqi Red Crescent, Al-Mansour, *Baghdad*.
- IRELAND — Irish Red Cross, 16 Merrion Square, *Dublin 2*.
- ITALY — Italian Red Cross, 12 via Toscana, *Rome*.
- IVORY COAST — Ivory Coast Red Cross Society, B.P. 1244, *Abidjan*.
- JAMAICA — Jamaica Red Cross Society, 76 Arnold Road, *Kingston 5*.
- JAPAN — Japanese Red Cross, 1-3 Shiba-Daimon 1-chome, Minato-Ku, *Tokyo 105*.
- JORDAN — Jordan National Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 10 001, *Amman*.
- KENYA — Kenya Red Cross Society, St. John's Gate, P.O. Box 40712, *Nairobi*.
- KOREA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF — Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, *Pyongyang*.
- KOREA, REPUBLIC OF — The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, 32-3Ka Nam San-Dong, *Seoul*.
- KUWAIT — Kuwait Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 1350, *Kuwait*.
- LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC — Lao Red Cross, P.B. 650, *Vientiane*.
- LEBANON — Lebanese Red Cross, rue Spears, *Beirut*.
- LESOTHO — Lesotho Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 366, *Maseru*.

- LIBERIA** — Liberian National Red Cross, National Headquarters, 107 Lynch Street, P.O. Box 226, *Monrovia*.
- LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA** — Libyan Arab Red Crescent, P.O. Box 541, *Benghazi*.
- LIECHTENSTEIN** — Liechtenstein Red Cross, *Vaduz*.
- LUXEMBOURG** — Luxembourg Red Cross, Parc de la Ville, C.P. 404, *Luxembourg*.
- MALAGASY REPUBLIC** — Red Cross Society of the Malagasy Republic, rue Patrice Lumumba, *Antananarivo*.
- MALAWI** — Malawi Red Cross, Hall Road, *Blantyre* (P.O. Box 30080, Chichiri, *Blantyre* 3).
- MALAYSIA** — Malaysian Red Crescent Society, 519 Jalan Belfield, *Kuala Lumpur* 08-03.
- MALI** — Mali Red Cross, B.P. 280, *Bamako*.
- MAURITANIA** — Mauritanian Red Crescent Society, B.P. 344, Avenue Gamal Abdel Nasser, *Nouakchott*.
- MAURITIUS** — Mauritius Red Cross, Ste Thérèse Street, *Curepipe*.
- MEXICO** — Mexican Red Cross, Avenida Ejército Nacional nº 1032, *México* 10 D.F.
- MONACO** — Red Cross of Monaco, 27 boul. de Suisse, *Monte Carlo*.
- MONGOLIA** — Red Cross Society of the Mongolian People's Republic, Central Post Office, Post Box 537, *Ulan Bator*.
- MOROCCO** — Moroccan Red Crescent, B.P. 189, *Rabat*.
- NEPAL** — Nepal Red Cross Society, Tahachal, P.B. 217, *Kathmandu*.
- NETHERLANDS** — Netherlands Red Cross, 27 Prinsessegracht, *The Hague*.
- NEW ZEALAND** — New Zealand Red Cross, Red Cross House, 14 Hill Street, *Wellington* 1. (P.O. Box 12-140, *Wellington North*.)
- NICARAGUA** — Nicaragua Red Cross, D.N. Apartado 3279, *Managua*.
- NIGER** — Red Cross Society of Niger, B.P. 386, *Niamey*.
- NIGERIA** — Nigerian Red Cross Society, Eko Aketa Close, off St. Gregory Rd., P.O. Box 764, *Lagos*.
- NORWAY** — Norwegian Red Cross, Parkveien 33b, *Oslo*. Mail Add.: *Postboks 7034 H-Oslo* 3.
- PAKISTAN** — Pakistan Red Crescent Society, National Headquarters, 169, Sarwar Road, *Rawalpindi*.
- PAPUA NEW GUINEA** — Red Cross of Papua New Guinea, P.O. Box 6545, *Boroko*.
- PANAMA** — Panamanian Red Cross, Apartado Postal 668, Zona 1, *Panamá*.
- PARAGUAY** — Paraguayan Red Cross, Brasil 216, *Asunción*.
- PERU** — Peruvian Red Cross, Jirón Chancay 881, *Lima*.
- PHILIPPINES** — Philippine National Red Cross, 860 United Nations Avenue, P.O.B. 280, *Manila* 2801.
- POLAND** — Polish Red Cross, Mokotowska 14, *Warsaw*.
- PORTUGAL** — Portuguese Red Cross, Jardim 9 Abril, 1 a 5, *Lisbon* 3.
- ROMANIA** — Red Cross of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Strada Biserica Amzei 29, *Bucarest*.
- SAN MARINO** — San Marino Red Cross, Palais gouvernemental, *San Marino*.
- SAUDI ARABIA** — Saudi Arabian Red Crescent, *Riyadh*.
- SENEGAL** — Senegalese Red Cross Society, Bd Franklin-Roosevelt, P.O.B. 299, *Dakar*.
- SIERRA LEONE** — Sierra Leone Red Cross Society, 6A Liverpool Street, P.O.B. 427, *Freetown*.
- SINGAPORE** — Singapore Red Cross Society, 15 Penang Lane, *Singapore* 9.
- SOMALIA (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC)** — Somali Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 937, *Mogadishu*.
- SOUTH AFRICA** — South African Red Cross, Cor. Kruis & Market Streets, P.O.B. 8726, *Johannesburg* 2001.
- SPAIN** — Spanish Red Cross, Eduardo Dato 16, *Madrid* 10.
- SRI LANKA (Dem. Soc. Rep. of)** — Sri Lanka Red Cross Society, 106 Dharmapala Mawatha, *Colombo* 7.
- SUDAN** — Sudanese Red Crescent, P.O. Box 235, *Khartoum*.
- SWAZILAND** — Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 377, *Mbabane*.
- SWEDEN** — Swedish Red Cross, Fack, S-104 40 *Stockholm* 14.
- SWITZERLAND** — Swiss Red Cross, Taubenstrasse 8, B.P. 2699, 3001 *Berne*.
- SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC** — Syrian Red Crescent, Bd Mahdi Ben Barake, *Damascus*.
- TANZANIA** — Tanzania Red Cross Society, Upanga Road, P.O.B. 1133, *Dar es Salaam*.
- THAILAND** — Thai Red Cross Society, Paribatra Building, Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, *Bangkok*.
- TOGO** — Togolese Red Cross Society, 51 rue Boko Soga, P.O. Box 655, *Lomé*.
- TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO** — Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society, Wrightson Road West, P.O. Box 357, *Port of Spain*, Trinidad, West Indies.
- TUNISIA** — Tunisian Red Crescent, 19 rue d'Angleterre, *Tunis*.
- TURKEY** — Turkish Red Crescent, Yenisehir, *Ankara*.
- UGANDA** — Uganda Red Cross, Nabunya Road, P.O. Box 494, *Kampala*.
- UNITED KINGDOM** — British Red Cross, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, *London, SW1X 7EJ*.
- UPPER VOLTA** — Upper Volta Red Cross, P.O.B. 340, *Ouagadougou*.
- URUGUAY** — Uruguayan Red Cross, Avenida 8 de Octubre 2990, *Montevideo*.
- U.S.A.** — American National Red Cross, 17th and D Streets, N.W., *Washington, D.C.* 20006.
- U.S.S.R.** — Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, I. Tcheremushkinskii proezd 5, *Moscow* 117036.
- VENEZUELA** — Venezuelan Red Cross, Avenida Andrés Bello No. 4, Apart. 3185, *Caracas*.
- VIET NAM, SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF** — Red Cross of Viet Nam, 68 rue Bà-Triệu, *Hanoi*.
- YUGOSLAVIA** — Red Cross of Yugoslavia, Simina ulica broj 19, *Belgrade*.
- REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE** — Red Cross of the Republic of Zaire, 41 av. de la Justice, B.P. 1712, *Kinshasa*.
- ZAMBIA** — Zambia Red Cross, P.O. Box R.W.1, 2837 Brentwood Drive, *Lusaka*.